

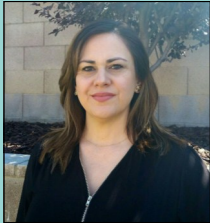
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Ward 6 Newsletter

Tucson First

June 13, 2016

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In respect of the victims of the Orlando shooting. How ironic that it occurred the night we had gathered together on an interfaith basis at the Islamic Center of Tucson to celebrate the unity Muhammad Ali called for and demonstrated throughout his life.

Last week I opened with an item on civility. Saturday night we filled the Islamic Center of Tucson in an evening of remembrance and unity, inspired by the life of Muhammad Ali. The more I learn about the man, the more impressed I become with what he stood for.

He'd have fit in well with the Tucson ethos. Whether it was fighting for interracial or



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police Department
911 or nonemergency
791-4444

Water Issues
791-3242/800-598-9449
Emergency: 791-4133

Street Maintenance
791-3154

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

Abandoned Shopping Carts
791-3171

Neighborhood Resources
837-5013

SunTran/SunLink
792-9222
TDD: 628-1565

Environmental Services
791-3171

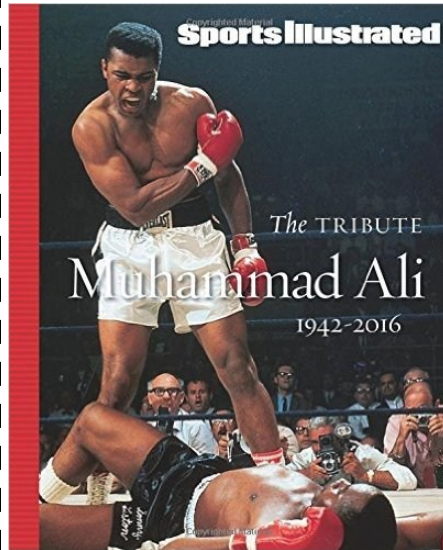
Park Tucson
791-5071

Planning and Development Services 791-5550

Pima Animal Care Center
724-5900

Pima County Vector Control
Cockroach: 443-6501
Mosquito: 243-7999

Continued: A Message From Steve

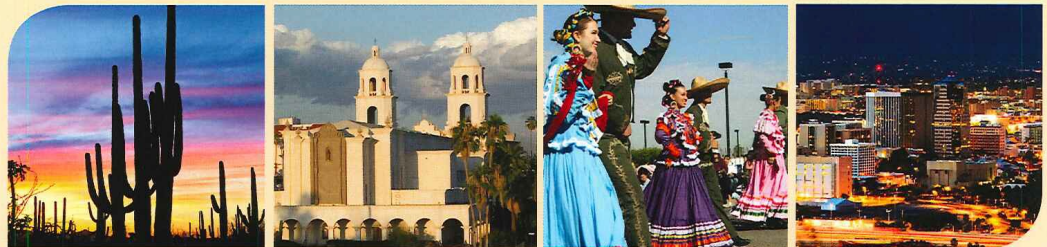


interfaith unity, international peace, or the work he did in his last years on behalf of Parkinson's sufferers, Ali was a leader among men.

Many thanks to Pastor Grady Scott for sharing his perspectives on what Ali meant to the African-American community. Many thanks to Bryan Davis from the Jewish Federation for his thoughts on Ali and his impact on interfaith relations. And, of course, many thanks to the Islamic Center community for opening their doors during the holy Ramadan season, inviting in Tucson at-large to share in this meaningful evening, and for including two of their members in sharing what Ali meant to the Muslim community.

And thanks to all of you who attended. You make us at the Ward 6 office proud.

PROCLAMATION



CITY OF TUCSON ♦ OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was born January 17, 1942 as Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, at 22, Clay won the World Heavyweight Championship from Sonny Liston; and

WHEREAS, soon after, Clay converted to Islam and changed his name to Muhammad Ali; and

WHEREAS, after his conversion, he continued his work on behalf of racial pride for African Americans and strongly supported the 1960's Civil Rights Movement; and

WHEREAS, when Ali refused to be inducted into the armed forces in opposition to the Vietnam War, he was denied a boxing license in every state, was stripped of his passport, and as a result did not box from April 1967 until October 1970; and

WHEREAS, during that time, Ali continued to work for racial justice; and

WHEREAS, following the overturn of his conviction in 1971, Ali went on to become the only three-time World Heavyweight Champion, winning the title in 1964, 1974, and 1978, earning his nicknames "The Greatest," and "The People's Champion"; and

WHEREAS, in pursuit of international peace, Ali traveled to Iraq during the Gulf War in an attempt to negotiate the release of American hostages; went to Afghanistan as the U.N. "Messenger of Peace" on a three-day goodwill mission to Kabul; and lit the Olympic Cauldron at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, from his early years through the end of his life, Ali promoted racial justice, interfaith relations, and international peace;

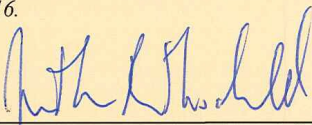
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor of the City of Tucson, Arizona, do hereby proclaim June 11, 2016 to be

MUHAMMAD ALI DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND UNITY

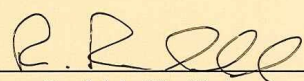
in this community, and encourage all our residents to appreciate the contributions of Muhammed Ali as a boxer and social activist.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tucson, Arizona to be affixed this 11th day of June, 2016.




Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor

ATTEST:


Roger Randolph, City Clerk



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff
Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congresswoman
Martha McSally (R)
(2nd District)
(202) 225-2542
Tucson Office: 520-
881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Doug
Ducey (R)
602-542-4331
Tucson office:
520-628-6580

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
520-791-4201

Hawks in the Heat

That guy's a Cooper's hawk. Recently, there have been media reports about young hawks being found on the ground due to the heat. Last week, a report from the Tucson Wildlife Center was being shared on some group list-serves offering advice on how to react if you see a baby hawk on the ground. Instead of paraphrasing, I'll just share the full text with you:



June 7, 2016

Since Saturday, Tucson Wildlife Center has been inundated with calls about young Cooper's hawks found on the ground

after having jumped from their nests to escape direct sunlight and the extreme heat in recent days.

Tucson Wildlife Center has been averaging 550 calls a day. More than 200 young Cooper's hawks have been triaged at the center's hospital. Some have been released, but many are being treated for injuries associated with jumping out of their nests or heat-related ailments.

June is naturally the month young Cooper's hawks begin leaving their nests. They are developing their ability to fly and typically spend a week on the ground learning.

ZoomTucson Map
<http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/>

During this time, the parent hawks are perched nearby, prepared to attack potential threats to their young - whether they be humans or other animals. However, the extreme heat in recent days has caused many young Cooper's hawks to abandon the nest early.

In the heat of the day, tortoises will be underground, most desert animals will be underground or seek out shade,"said Lisa Bates, founder of Tucson Wildlife Center. A bird's body temperature is 106 degrees, so they can take more heat than we can, but not much. Try to imagine yourself in the canopy of a tree that has no shade. Try to imagine yourself sitting in the blazing sun all day long with no breeze. It's miserable for all animals."

Most of the young raptors will survive without human intervention, however, because so many people have found fledgling Cooper's hawks on the ground in the last few days, Bates and her volunteers at the non-profit Tucson Wildlife Center on East Speedway Boulevard, are offering advice to the 2,000-plus callers.

If the fledglings have mostly brown feathers, are walking well and appear healthy with no crusting around the beak or eyes, and if they have found shade, Bates advises people to leave them alone. The parent hawks likely are monitoring them from a nearby perch. If a bird appears to be heat stressed, a shallow bowl of water could help. Bates said, they should not be fed and pets should be kept indoors away from the fledglings.

If the young birds are mostly white with downy feathers and appear healthy they can be placed in a makeshift nest. A shallow, open-top box or a basket lined with leaves and tied to the shady part of a tree near where the hawk was found will keep it safe from ground predators and allow the adult hawks to continue caring for the young hawk.

A Cooper's hawk is a medium-sized hawk native to North America. It is found from Southern Canada to Northern Mexico.

For more information, or if you see wildlife in need of help, call Tucson Wildlife Center at 520-290-WILD (9453).

Ya, it's probably not a great idea to mess with a baby hawk while mama's perched above watching. Good advice all around from the TWC folks.

Marist College Historic District



It has been a few years since there was an effort to use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the stabilization of the Marist College. Those funds would not have made the building 'user ready,' but would have set in place a process through which the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson could seek an alternate use and potentially eventually return some portion our CDBG funds

to us. Here's the motion that was made in July, 2012:

Council Member Romero MOVED and it was duly seconded to approved the City Manager's recommendation direct staff to negotiate an agreement to utilize \$1.1 million of existing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to stabilize Marist College and that the City secure a conservation easement from the property owner that requires the building façade and architectural features be retained to preserve its designation on the National Register of Historic Places.

It was FURTHER moved that the City must secure an agreement with the Diocese that sales proceeds be returned to the City of Tucson for use as CDBG program income available for historic preservation or blight abatement or any other CDBG eligible activity and that the City stay involved in the existing public process, including the right to do a request for proposal process with the Downtown Tucson Partnership, the Diocese and any other stakeholder.

Both Paul and I voted against the motion. With so many unmet human needs elsewhere in the community, we did not feel that this use of Community Development Block Grants to the tune of over a million dollars was a good idea. The money would only have stabilized the structure of a privately-owned building. We have dozens of historic, privately-owned buildings all over town. The fact that this was owned by the church didn't put in place a different set of rules in my mind. Also, a functional use wasn't identified for after the stabilization. Ultimately, Assistant City Manager Elias made this statement:

"The city could not achieve the goal of both saving the building and finding private investment," Elias said. "It became clear over the past week or two, we couldn't satisfy council's conditions." (Arizona Daily Star; September 12, 2012).

Under the agreement, the Diocese and City were to work together and, through some public process, find a user who would go beyond merely stabilizing the structure and put new dollars into a new use. We were unable to get the deal done, and the CDBG funds were never used. The impasse came down to who would eventually own the building. The church wanted to retain ownership, and the City had hoped for a private, revenue-generating business to step in. As the deal fell apart, the church issued this statement:

"The Diocese lacks funds to restore the building, since maintaining 76 parishes and 26 schools heavily strains its resources. Without sufficient funds, the Diocese feels the only possible way to deal with the deteriorating Marist College, which has become a liability, is to tear it down, preserving some of the facade for historical purposes as a tribute to the surrounding historic barrio."

Now, through the Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) agreement the Diocese has signed, we have a very good project on the horizon. The total project is valued at just over \$24M, and on Friday we received notice that the FSL folks' application for tax credits that'll go toward the Marist has been funded. The market works when you wait on it.

Not only did the agreement save over \$1M in CDBG funds for other uses, but it will fund a new senior living facility and fully restore the Marist. It's a far superior deal to our having just tossed a million dollars to stabilizing the structure.

As a part of the new deal, the church will also sell its current office building. That will become a multi-story senior living building, offering about 75 much-needed living units.

The restoration of Marist and building the new senior living facility are excellent outcomes. The challenging part for me at last week's M&C meeting was not this arrangement, but new development proposed elsewhere on the Marist College Historic District site – specifically, the demolition of the historic Parish Hall.

Ultimately, the church made a compelling case that it has outgrown the ability of the existing Parish Hall to support the growth and associated programmatic activities of the cathedral. However, I felt we needed some assurance that we will end up with something that's compatible with the surrounding area. I wasn't able to get all of what I had hoped for, but not tossing out the good for the perfect, I supported the motion. Here's how it read:

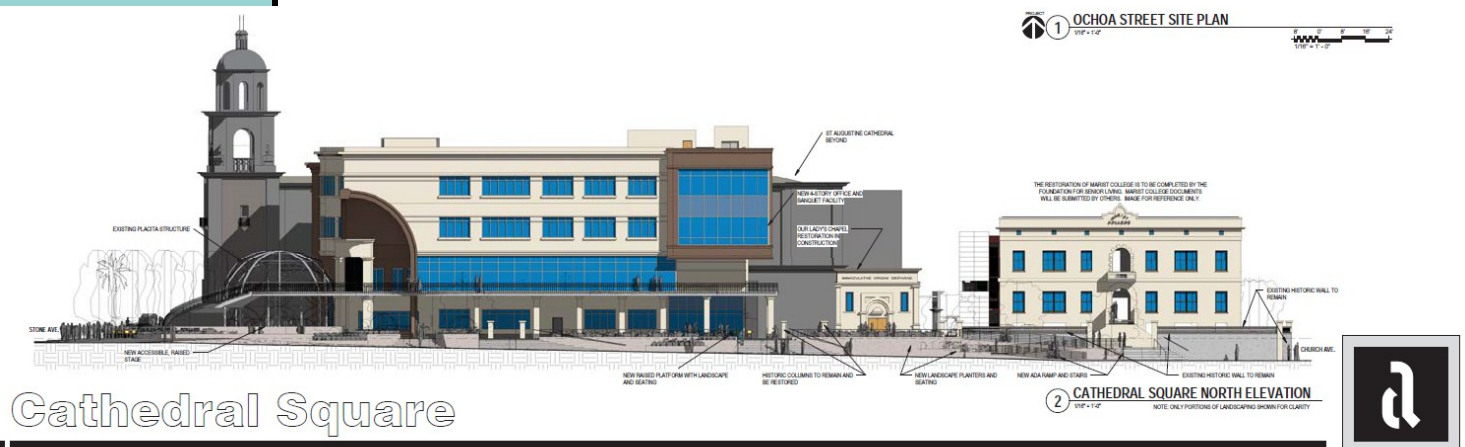
City Manager's Office Recommendation – Staff recommends:

1. *Approval of the demolition plan based on the finding that 'Reasonable Economic Use' of the property cannot be made; contingent on*
2. *Approval of the proposed replacement plan with the condition that the applicant continues to refine the replacement plan to achieve greater design compatibility with the surrounding context.*

Three things were missing:

- First, assurance that a design professional who is sensitive to the historic context of the area will be involved in the redesign of the parish hall;
- Second, that the adjacent users' needs are taken care of as that design is finalized;
- Third, assurance the final decision on design changes comes back to M&C for final approval.

I was able to get the first two, but M&C decided they want to leave it to staff to approve the final design of the new parish hall building unless major redesign changes are a part of what is finally decided upon. Here's a rendering of what's now being proposed by the church for the new hall:



Cathedral Square

TAC No. 15001

4/06/16

Request for Mayor and Council Review Letter | May 2016

the architecture company
p. 12

Concerns have been raised about height, massing, and some other external changes. Those are major, by definition. So far, the church has resisted any change to these elements, to

the point that the Tucson Pima County Historical Commission Plans Review Subcommittee voted 6-0 to reject the design. Unless there's some major change, the M&C voice is now out of the final decision.

Taking down any historic building is always a tough decision. And yet, at the end of the day, the church owns the building, the church is unable to minister to its congregation with the present structure, and the church has been told by donors that merely making modifications to the existing structure would not be funded, so demolishing the present Parish Hall became a last resort.

As noted in the motion, the demolition is contingent on final approval of a redevelopment plan. Both Paul and I – the two who voted back in 2012 to reject the use of CDBG funds for the Marist stabilization – expressed the hope that all parties will exercise 'good faith' in how this plays out, hoping for some movement in the redesign process. We'll see.

More Downtown Development

The summer edition of Biz Tucson is titled "Downtown Booming." The cathedral block wasn't included in their article, but plenty of tax generating work was. It shows the progress we continue to make in the revitalization of the downtown core.

While we were approving our budget and going back and forth on the Marist, the County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve a lease deal with Caterpillar. That's the first step in the Cat move into downtown. With their deal, the County will lease Caterpillar county-owned space at 97 E Congress. The building will require about \$2M in tenant improvements to make it ready for Caterpillar's arrival. Eventually, they'll relocate over to the west side and will ultimately hire several hundred employees. And that's just a piece of what Biz Tucson reported on.

In addition to Cat, Biz Tucson author David Pittman included in his article 22 new residential projects – both multi-family and single family units. Those will house up to 1,500 residents. Add to that the AC Marriott that I've shared on before, the renovations to the TCC in anticipation of our new pro hockey team, One East Broadway, One West Broadway, the Downtown Clifton Hotel, and Johnny Gibson's Market, and you'll see why we ended up as the 'story' for Biz Tucson. I'm looking forward to the upgrading of Scott Avenue as a further boost to the businesses in that area. And with a residential occupancy rate of 87% downtown, the market is ripe for more to come.

Underwriters and money lenders are taking advantage of the fixed-rail streetcar. The success we've seen over the past five years continues. The impact on the local economy is undeniable, and the impact on our budget is much-needed.

As I shared with the Downtown Merchants a couple of weeks ago, I'm grateful to those who have taken a risk on investing in downtown – they're trusting in our ability to implement policies that will pay them dividends. Biz Tucson took note.

Budget

The success we're seeing in the downtown core has a direct impact on our budget. Last week, we voted to approve the FY'17 budget. It'll include some fee increases, significant

reductions in staffing capacity, and all-around belt tightening. It includes increases to the price of zoo entry, but \$150K of the new revenues will go to needed capital improvements at the zoo. We also agreed to increase our public utility tax by one half percent, and the bed tax surcharge will go from \$2 up to \$4. There was concern that the bed tax piece would make us comparatively uncompetitive with hotels outside of city limits, though the increase will yield over \$3M. We absorbed a net of about \$8M in police department reductions. Everyone is playing a role in this year's balancing.

Importantly, the budget does not rely on any one-time fixes – such as restructuring debt, dipping into our reserves, or the sale of land. From an operations standpoint, we are on the path to being structurally balanced: revenues equaling or exceeding expenses. It's the first time since I was elected in 2009 that we've done that, and therefore the first time I've supported our budget. We made good progress, and now we have to carry out what we said we'd do.

Last year, the Fitch bond rating agency dropped our rating and our outlook. That was based on how we weren't addressing some of the structural issues in our budget that we in fact took care of this year. In reaction to what we just adopted, Fitch improved our outlook from negative to stable. They didn't upgrade our rating yet (nor did any of the other rating agencies), but the fact that our outlook was upgraded is a positive sign. Effectively, they said that the proof will be in the pudding. We need to follow through.

Moody's probably put it best. They didn't change any of our ratings or outlooks, and offered this reasoning:

Moody's
Rating Outlook

The negative outlook on the city's ratings reflects Moody's view that the city will become increasingly challenged to maintain structural balance in its financial operations, particularly as the fixed costs associated with pension liabilities rise. Although the city's new management team appears to have made significant budgetary adjustments to address this challenge, their ability to deliver on these plans will be a critical factor in any future action by Moody's to change the city's ratings or outlook.

As Moody's pointed out, we still have significant challenges ahead. But we took some important steps this year and are now in a good position to hit the pension and capital needs questions. Until operations were in order, those other, larger issues weren't areas we could address.



Arizona Town Hall

Another important budget item we talked about last week was the 108th Arizona Town Hall. I asked Juan Padres from our economic initiatives team and Lea Marquez-Peterson from the Tucson Hispanic Chamber to come and share with us what they had experienced at the recent conference.

This relates to the budget because cross-border relations and infrastructure issues will have a significant impact on our long-term economic health. I've

been pretty disappointed with the refusal of the Board of Supervisors to move forward on the Sonoran Corridor since I invited them to participate with us last year in identifying that as a key financial driver for the region. The Arizona Town Hall reaffirmed how key that area is to our long-term economic health.

The full reports are available online if you google “Arizona Town Hall.” The takeaways were broken down into four main categories: infrastructure; economic opportunities; energy, technology, and innovation; and education, marketing, and communication. Each had a list of action points.

In the area of infrastructure, the participants called for ‘flexibility in hiring and staffing’ on the international border ports of entry. We need to speed up crossing times. They addressed the need for more upgrades to the facilities, funding to build out SR189, and other steps to improve commercial movement across the border – including transit corridors both to the north and south.

On economic opportunities, they specifically advocated for the repeal of SB 1070. If that were to occur, it would be an economic game-changer for the region. They also spoke in favor of expanding the Border Card Crossing Zone to include the entire state of Arizona. I’m not sure we on the M&C are on board with that as long as 1070 is on the books. We’re the ones who stepped up in opposition back when people were calling for boycotts of this area. But the Town Hall’s advocacy for streamlining the passport and visa process as well as the guest worker programs are items we’d surely support.

In the category of energy, technology and innovation, the recommendations included encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration on energy research between our universities, expanding our business incubator model into Sonora, and reaching out to potential investors to help move us to being a hub for cross-border business relationships in the energy sector.

Finally, the section on education, marketing, and communications talked about expanding informational campaigns for state lawmakers and residents on both sides of the border to coordinate bi-national ways to market the region. The group recognized the value in consistently marketing the region as a tourism destination, plus enlisting the private sector in sharing best practices in fields such as renewable energy, aerospace, and agriculture.

The value of these sorts of conferences is found in the follow through. If you read through the guides on their website, you’ll see specific actions citizens can take part in to keep these initiatives moving. I appreciated Lea and JP taking the time to both participate in the conference and to report out on it to us.

Home Ownership

I’d toss home ownership into the category of our improving local economy, the budget success we’ve seen, and how we keep the momentum going. Last Friday, I was pleased to join Jonathan at City Hall for the unveiling of Pathways to Purchase (P2P). It’s a new funding source with incentives to help people get into home ownership. This is not a replay of the boom/bust home ownership cycle we saw several years



ago. These loans are legitimately based on an ability to pay, but they offer down payment assistance to open the front door in a way that might make someone who can't otherwise afford the large up front 'down' to get involved.

The players in this include the Tucson and Pima County Industrial Development Authorities (IDAs), local lending agencies all over town, the UA, the city and, importantly, the residents who can help us identify properties that have been vacant and might be ripe for sale. There are limits built into the amount of down payment assistance people can qualify for based on the value of the houses. There are also a variety of interest rates – I'm not going to even try to explain how they slide around. For that, and for a very good description of the P2P and other home ownership tools we have available, check out the mayor's webpage on this at www.mayorrothschild.com/initiatives/help-for-homebuyers/. Generally though, this is a 30-year fixed rate mortgage with down payment assistance of up to \$20K, based on income and cost of the house. The down payment assistance is a five-year forgivable note at zero percent interest – the key to preventing flips is that buyers must live in the house as their primary residence for at least five years and must have gone through all the regular qualifying steps with the lenders.

After the meeting, I reached out to Jonathan's office, the UA, IDA, some lenders, and some residents to keep this moving. We'll be getting together soon to talk about next steps so this doesn't end up being an hour-long press conference that has no legs.

A while back, I shared tables with you showing how home ownership has given way to rentals and vacant houses around the University. Many of the neighborhoods have rental/vacancy rates exceeding 70%. That's not healthy. This is one tool we hope will be effective in turning those numbers around.

Roadway Projects and Saguaros

You may recall the piece I wrote a couple of weeks ago on the removal of a large old-growth saguaro over on Broadway at Plumber. It needed to come down due to some safety concerns. However, there are three others in close proximity that could be salvaged with some foresight and planning. It's that discussion I wanted to start.

A few things have happened since I raised that topic. First, I've asked the Landscape Advisory Committee (LAC) to take a look at the city policy – to the extent one exists – related to preservation and relocation of harvestable plants in conjunction with roadway projects. They'll be talking about that during this week's LAC meeting. It's open to the public – 3:30pm this Wednesday at the Parks Conference Room, 900 S Randolph Way. That's over near Reid Park. This will be an initial exploratory conversation to see where the committee wants to go with this issue.

In addition, tonight I'll be meeting with representatives from the Tucson chapter of the Arizona Native Plant Society to see what they may have to offer on the issue of salvage and preservation.

Finally, in response to the media and newsletter reports on this, staff has weighed in to clarify what our current game plan is. They had heard similar concerns related to the Grant Road widening. Both residents and the design team were concerned with the poten-

tial waste of good landscape materials and the possibility of clearing off parcels, only to see them sit vacant for months.

To address those concerns, they've walked the alignment with city landscape people and flagged vegetation to retain during demolition. As is the case with Broadway, there was some significant, mature vegetation. The walk resulted in revising some of the grading plans to save trees, etc., and they have harvested some valuable cactus, the relocation of which was deemed to be less expensive than buying them new. If you go down to Grant and 1st Street, you'll see what are largely vacant parcels where demolition occurred, and where some of the plant material is being stored for later use on the project.

I'm told a similar exercise will take place with respect to Broadway. We may have input from the other groups noted above to help encourage that process along. The landscape is an amenity to the roadway, adding to the aesthetic quality of life in the area. The issue of cost of relocation is only one of several legitimate factors we'll need to consider as the Broadway project moves forward.

Public Safety and Quality of Life



On that theme of maintaining quality of life in our neighborhoods, one issue that we deal with on a regular basis is crime. Now that summer has arrived, I've been hearing from many of you that burglaries and other crimes of convenience are increasing. Tied to that are frustrations that even when TPD has done its job and caught the people involved, the courts seem either unwilling or unable to make convictions stick, and we see the suspects back

in our neighborhoods over and over.

There's more than one important set of players in understanding how we can become more effective in addressing these crime incidents. It includes you as residents and TPD. But also included are the prosecutors and attorneys who handle the cases once they're handed off by the police.

To this end, I've pulled together a meeting where all the relevant agencies will be present to talk with you about the whole law enforcement and judicial process as it specifically relates to the common crimes we see in midtown. Included in the meeting will be command leadership from TPD, our City Attorney and someone from his office who deals with neighborhood issues, and Barbara LaWall, Pima County Attorney. She'll be bringing along some of her staff as well.

The meeting will take place at the Ward 6 office on Thursday, June 30th. It'll run from 6:30 until 8:00 pm. To frame and focus the discussion, I sent out a set of facts related to an actual case we've seen evolve in a couple of our midtown neighborhoods to all of the agency representatives. We'll use that as a case study in how residents report crimes, what TPD does with them, and how they're handled when they get to the stage of being prosecuted. The hope is that all the relevant agency leaders can hear our frustrations, and we can hear what we can do to enhance the tools they have to work with.

I know there are some competing events that evening, but this issue is of such importance that I'd encourage your neighborhood leadership to find someone who can come and represent your interests and report back on what we learn at the event.

Bump Keys

On a related note, a rash of burglaries across the country has been linked to something called 'bump keys.' When they're inserted into a lock and tapped gently, they can pop it open. On the way out, the burglar can tap it again and relock your door so you don't have any idea your house had been breached. Watch this short video showing how they work: https://gma.yahoo.com/police-across-nation-concerned-over-rise-bump-keys-124704786--abc-news-house-and-home.html?soc_src=mediacontentstory&soc_trk=ma

Right now, I have in our city attorney's inbox an email asking what legal authority we have to outlaw the fabrication, possession, or sale of bump keys unless you're a licensed locksmith. Until I get an answer on how we can move forward on this at the local level (if at all), you should be aware that they're out there and currently legal to own. It's one more thing to keep in mind if you find things missing, but all else at your house looks in order.

I've also shared the link with Chief Magnus so it's on TPD's radar screen as well. He's supportive of my interest in an ordinance controlling their availability.

Positive Public Safety – Examples of Community Policing

For me, one of the strong selling points in Chief Magnus' job application was his commitment to community policing. That means getting our police officers out into the community, developing relationships, and building a close rapport with the public. I'm going to share a couple of recent examples of how that commitment is being fulfilled out in the field.



The officer with Chris in the picture is Nichole Harkey. A gentleman from out of town recently took the time to send a four page, hand-written note to thank Nichole for going the extra mile in terms of showing sensitivity in a very tough situation.

Back in February, he and his wife took a spill on an escalator on the way out of a Gem and Mineral Show exhibition. She hit her head on the way down, and although she was bruised and shaken, she seemed fine at first. They went to the ER to make sure. While they were in the waiting area, the injury quickly developed into a brain bleed. Her condition declined rapidly, and she passed away just a few days later.

Officer Harkey was one of the first people on the scene after the fall. Instead of simply taking care of her duties as a first responder and making the handoff to the medical folks, she helped the husband get his gem show items to his car and locate the ambulance after-

ward. She checked in with him by phone over the next few days, and she visited them in hospital after finishing her shifts. The gentleman ended his letter with this:

She probably thinks I came home and forgot all about her. Nothing could be farther from the truth. There isn't a day goes by I don't think of the kindness and thoughtfulness she showed me. She will remain in my thoughts and prayers daily for as long as I live.

Having a person such as Nichole Harkey serving on the force must give you a great feeling of pride. She is a most exceptional woman.

I'd say that's the kind of cop we want to have representing Tucson.

Another example came from an incident that occurred in Armory Park. That area has had problems with excessive noise coming from the Playground Bar. Sgt. Al Baca was assigned to a recent case involving the place and became the liaison between the person filing the complaint and the Playground.

Sgt. Baca made contact with the resident, checked in with the Playground management, and later went back by the resident to check on how things were shaping up. This is an email we received in reaction to that check:

Hi Corey (that's Lt. Corey Doggett who works our downtown district),

Sgt. Al Baca stopped by this evening to see how things were going. I really appreciated his taking the time to do that. My pal, Mark Crum who lives on 16th near 6th and is a retired City employee who now helps out at the Ward 6 office was here, and was very impressed. He said he has never had that happen in the 30 or so years he has lived in Armory Park.

Thank you and the Chief for real community based policing.

Both officers Baca and Harkey deserve to be given mention for their willingness to walk the walk of community policing. We at the Ward 6 office are grateful for their efforts and outreach.

Ballot Measure

At our last M&C meeting, we unanimously decided to hold off on putting anything on this November's ballot related to governance. I hear there's a little chippy chatter on talk radio

that the decision was only made for purely political reasons. I'll speak only for myself in saying exactly what I did a month before our vote – that is, I see no reason to spend over a quarter of a million dollars to take an item to the ballot that will likely be decided in our favor by the courts, and that has already been asked and answered multiple times at the ballot box in favor of our current election system.

There are other good reasons to hold off and not spend the money to put governance questions on the ballot this fall. One of them is the length of the ballot. There will be federal, state, and county elected positions that would appear ahead of the 'Ward only' question. In addition, there will potentially be eight State Constitutional issues, 28 initiatives, and a referendum. The deadline for filing the necessary number of signatures to get questions on the ballot is July 7th, so we won't know until then how many would have ended up ahead of our item. Here's a full list of those initiatives: <http://apps.azsos.gov/election/2016/general/initiatives.htm>

As I stated at the study session, for purely selfish reasons, I'd like to run Ward only. But I don't believe the community wants that (as evidenced by previous elections, in which our current election system was supported), and I do believe the way we're elected reflects the way we govern. Some items are ward-centric, and others have broad community relevance.

If we lose in court at the 9th Circuit and they affirm the panel decision stating our current system is unconstitutional, we can place a question on a city-only ballot early next year. But I don't expect us to lose.



**Local First
ARIZONA**

Local Tucson

For this week's local Tucson piece, I'm going to give some publicity to our Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSA) folks. The group I took to task a few weeks ago on the puppy mill bill was the national Humane

Society. The HSSA is our own local rescue – different set of folks and directly invested in Tucson.



On Friday, June 24th at 10:30 am, they will host an event to unveil a new Pet Disaster Relief Trailer. It'll be fully stocked with emergency supplies so they can respond to any emergencies that require either the rescue or relocation of companion animals. Some well-respected groups such as AKC Reunite, the Tucson Kennel Club, and other local clubs have donated funds to help make this possible.

The HSSA is located over at 3465 E Kliendale. The event is open to all, so please think about stopping by for the unveiling, and possibly stopping inside afterwards and adopt a new family member from the kennel.

Free Outdoor Movies at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

While you're marking your calendar, make a special note to take the kids by the Southern Arizona Train Museum over on 414 N Toole during each of this summer's 2nd Saturdays.



They're hosting free outdoor movies on July 9th and August 13th.

On the 9th, the show will be Despicable Me. It'll begin at 7:15 pm. Despicable Me 2 will show on the 13th at 7pm. Of course, the museum will be open before show time for you to visit as a part of your 2nd Saturday travels.

The museum has its own website at www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org. You can get more information about hours and the free movie nights at that site.



I'll close with this reminder about the end-of-life forum I'll be hosting on Saturday, June 25th at 2:00 pm at the Ward 6 office.

We'll have a panel that will talk about real personal experiences with family members going through tough end-of-life medical issues, some doctors who can speak to the topic, and legislators from Phoenix who are working out details for bills coming in their next session.

In the past week, I've seen a segment on TV related to a person who had prolonged illness issues and suffered both physically and financially as a result. I also heard a radio interview of a guy claiming miraculous intervention and healing in a similar situation. I only mention those to indicate once the panel is done, we'll have Q&A from the audience. That portion of the event might prove to be as interesting – and certainly as interactive – as the panel presentations.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Events and Entertainment

Select-A-Seat Open House at the TCC

Saturday, June 18, 2016 | 10 am – 2 pm

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church Ave

The Arizona Coyotes will unveil the new name and logo for their new affiliate, Tucson's soon-to-arrive AHL team, at an Open House event on Saturday, June 18 at 12:30 p.m. at the Tucson Convention Center (TCC). The event will be open to the public and admission is free. The Coyotes will also hold a season ticket Select-A-Seat event by appointment only for those who made a deposit from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and for the general public from 1-2 p.m. www.arizonacoyotes.com/ahl

Cool Summer Nights: Full Moon Festival

Saturday, June 18, 2016 | 5 pm – 10 pm

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, 2021 N. Kinney Rd.

Beat the Arizona heat and enjoy a family-friendly outing during the popular *Cool Summer Nights*. Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum stays open after sundown on Saturday evenings all summer as the nocturnal creatures of The Living Desert come to life. This Saturday, the Full Moon Festival will include visual art and music, as the light from a full moon offers a distinctive perspective from an artistic point of view. www.desertmuseum.org/visit/events_saturday.php

Cinema La Placita's New Home

Every Thursday evening through August | 7:30 pm

Pima County Courthouse Courtyard, 115 N Church Ave

Enjoy the summer evenings with a different movie outdoors each week for \$3 per person (includes all-you-can-eat popcorn). The annual summer movie series recently moved from La Placita Village to the Courthouse. The movie for Thursday, June 16th is "Born Yesterday" starring William Holden and Judy Holiday. www.cinemalaplacita.com

Ongoing

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E University Blvd | www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave | www.arizonatheatre.org

The Rogue Theatre, The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd | www.theroguetheatre.org

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave | www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church St | tucsonconventioncenter.com

Meet Me at Maynards, 311 E Congress St | www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

A social walk/run through the Downtown area. Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!
Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

Mission Garden, 929 W Mission Ln | www.tucsonbirthplace.org

A living agricultural museum and ethnobotanical garden at the site of Tucson's Birthplace (the foot of "A-Mountain"). A non-profit educational organization demonstrating the region's rich agricultural history by growing the heritage crops that represent the more than 4000 years of cultivation in the Tucson Basin. Open Saturdays: April through November 8 am to 12 pm and December through March 10 am to 2 pm. For guided tours call 520-777-9270.

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S 6th Ave | www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way | www.tucsonbotanical.org

October 1, 2015 – May 31, 2016: *"Butterfly Magic" Exhibit*

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave |

www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd | www.uamineralmuseum.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave | www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St | www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St | hotelcongress.com

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd | www.loftcinema.com

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St | www.rialtotheatre.com